

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claim 3 is withdrawn. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new matter is added.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has objected the specification and claims 1 and 7 for reciting the punctuation “{...}” and “(...)”. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have amended the specification and claims 1 and 7 to delete “{...}” and “(...)” and to recite appropriate punctuation numeral “,”. The Examiner has also objected to claim 1 for reciting “including a human”. Applicants have deleted “including a human” as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants submit that this objection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Rejections under U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as the Examiner asserts the phrase “at least one compound of formula I administered in effective amount is not a thiazole substituted on a ring carbon sulfonamide (the amide of which can be substituted) that has carbonic anhydrase inhibiting activity” recited in claim 1 is vague and indefinite. Applicants have herein amended claim 1 to delete this phrase. Therefore this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

Rejections under U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Wagle et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0022622 (“Wagle”). According to the Examiner, Wagle discloses a method of treating diabetic retinopathy in a patient by administering 2,4,5-trimethylthiazole. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended claims 1, from which the remaining claims subject to the rejection properly depend, to recite "... method of decreasing intraocular pressure or improving ocular accommodation in an animal in need thereof..." Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and specifically at, e.g., page 3, lines 2-9; page 7, lines 10-14 and page 17, lines 1-6. Wagle lacks any teaching that the compounds of the instant invention can be utilized to decrease intraocular pressure or improve ocular accommodation in an animal with increased intraocular pressure or diminished ocular accommodation. Therefore, Wagle does not teach administering the claimed compounds of the present invention to decrease intraocular pressure or improve ocular accommodation in an animal in need thereof.

Thus, Wagle does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claims 1, 2 and 4-7, as amended herein, are not anticipated by Wagle and respectfully request this rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this application that can be handled in a phone conference with Applicants' Attorneys, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,


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